

News Connection

A monthly newsletter for DSHS staff and friends



Compromise will be key to the 56th Legislature

On Jan. 11 the 147 members of the Washington State Legislature will gather in Olympia for opening ceremonies of the 56th session. During the next 105 days the members will consider a wide range of bills to establish new programs, design laws to meet specific unmet needs, and write a multi-billion dollar budget to run the state for the next two years.

The balance of power in the Legislature shifted dramatically as a result of the Nov. 3 General Election. The Senate went from a 26-23 Republican majority to a

27-22 Democratic majority. And the House of Representatives went from a Republican majority of 57-41 to an even tie of 49-49. The only other time House membership was tied was in 1979.

Both parties of the House will share leadership, electing co-speakers plus co-chairs for each committee. Rep. Clyde Ballard, R-East Wenatchee, will now share the position with Rep. Frank Chopp, D-Seattle.

“What this all means is that no bill will get out of committee unless members can reach a compromise of some kind,” said Sherry McNamara, Director of Legislative Relations. “And that compromise in the House must work with agendas of the Democratically-controlled

Senate and the Democratic Governor in order to ultimately succeed.”

Senate leaders are Sen. Sid Synder of Long Beach as majority leader and Sen. Dan McDonald of Bellevue as minority leader. (See boxes for committees and chairs).

The members will be crafting the 1999-2001 Biennial Budget estimated to reach \$20 billion. Adding to the complexity of balancing demands with revenues are the spending limitations of Initiative 601 and passage of Referendum 49. (See related budget story on page 5).

Education and transportation are expected to receive a great deal of attention. And, legislators will be discussing the best way to use the estimated \$4 billion that will come to the state over the next 25 years from the recent tobacco lawsuit settlement.

Each session DSHS submits a number of proposals known as “Request Legislation” that focus on correcting or refining legislation governing programs within DSHS. (See box on page 2 for three pieces of Request Legislation.)

“We always try to get bipartisan support for our requests right from the start,” said McNamara.

The regular session is scheduled to conclude on April 26.

To learn more about the Governor’s proposed 1999-2001 budget turn to page 5.

SENATE COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

- Agriculture and Rural Economic Development,** Sen. Marilyn Rasmussen, chair
Commerce, Trade, Housing, and Financial Institutions, Sen. Margarita Prentice, chair
Education, Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe, chair
Energy, Technology and Telecommunications, Sen. Lisa Brown, chair
Environmental Quality and Water Resources, Sen. Karen Fraser, chair
Health and Long Term Care, Sen. Pat Thibaudeau, chair
Higher Education, Sen. Jeanne Kohl, chair
Human Services and Corrections, Sen. Jim Hargrove, chair
Judiciary, Sen. Mike Heavey, chair
Labor and Workforce Development, Sen. Darlene Fairley, chair
Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, Sen. Ken Jacobsen, chair
Rules, Lt. Gov. Brad Owen chair; Sen. Lorraine Wojahn, vice-chair
State and Local Government, Sen. Julia Patterson, chair
Transportation, Sen. Mary Margaret Haugen, chair
Ways and Means, Sen. Valoria Loveland, chair; Sen. Al Bauer, vice-chair and chair of Capital Budget Subcommittee.

Inside

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- AASA Quality Teams make a difference for clients **3**
- How Gov. Locks’s proposed budget affects DSHS **5**
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HOUSE COMMITTEES AND CO-CHAIRS

Committee	Democratic Co-Chair	Republican Co-Chair
Agriculture & Ecology	Rep. Kelli Linville (Bellingham)	Rep. Gary Chandler (Moses Lake)
Appropriations	Rep. Helen Sommers (Seattle)	Rep. Tom Huff (Gig Harbor)
Capital Budget	Rep. Ed Murray (Seattle)	Rep. Maryann Mitchell (Federal Way)
Children & Family Services	Rep. Kip Tokuda (Seattle)	Rep. Duane Sommers (Spokane)
Commerce & Labor	Rep. Steve Conway (Tacoma)	Rep. Jim Clements (Yakima)
Criminal Justice & Corrections	Rep. Al O'Brien (Mountlake Terrace)	Rep. Ida Ballasiotes (Mercer Island)
Economic Development, Housing & Trade	Rep. Velma Veloria (Seattle)	Rep. Steve Van Loven (Bellevue)
Education	Rep. Dave Quall (Mt. Vernon)	Rep. Gigi Talcott (Tacoma)
Finance	Rep. Hans Dunshee (Snohomish)	Rep. Brian Thomas (Renton)
Financial Institutions & Insurance	Rep. Brian Hatfield (Raymond)	Rep. Brad Benson (Spokane)
Health Care	Rep. Eileen Cody (Seattle)	Rep. Linda Evans Parlette (Wenatchee)
Higher Education	Rep. Phyllis Kenney (Seattle)	Rep. Don Carlson (Vancouver)
Judiciary	Rep. Dow Constantine (Seattle)	Rep. Larry Sheahan (South Spokane)
Local Government	Rep. Pat Scott (Everett)	Rep. Joyce Mulliken (Ephrata)
Natural Resources	Rep. Debbie Regala (Tacoma)	Rep. Jim Buck (Joyce)
Rules	Speaker Frank Chopp (Seattle)	Speaker Clyde Ballard (East Wenatchee)
State Government	Rep. Sandra Romero (Olympia)	Rep. Cathy McMorris (Colville)
Technology, Telecommunications & Energy	Rep. Erik Poulsen (Seattle)	Rep. Larry Crouse (Spokane)
Transportation	Rep. Ruth Fisher (Tacoma)	Rep. Karen Schmidt (Bainbridge Island)

Secretary's
corner
by Lyle Quasim



When we think of our household budgets we understand clearly that we make choices in what we spend, how we

spend, and why we spend. In designing a budget for DSHS that will carry us through the year 2001 we have areas where we can't make choices; there is no discretion on what must be funded and at what level. But there are areas we can. Making decisions about those areas can be very difficult.

During this past year, program staff throughout the seven administrations worked closely with stakeholders, the Budget Office and my cabinet in developing proposals for the 1999-2001 Biennial Budget. Our final package was sent to Gov. Gary Locke in September.

Gov. Locke shared with me that our budget proposals, and the manner in which we had prioritized spending decisions, were extremely helpful as he built the next budget for state government.

Indeed, I believe this was one of the best budget cycles in the history of this agency. Staff, working long, hard hours, put together a budget that is highly technical and complex, especially given the financial impacts of Initiative 601 and recently-passed Referendum 49.

While we gave the Governor proposed cuts to our budget in three ranges (three, five, and seven percent), he took cuts predominantly in the three percent category. This means that, hopefully, cuts will occur as a result of efficiencies (including over \$20 million in Medical Assistance Administration) and funding source switches, and not in direct services to our clients. This is a tribute to the fine work of staff in identifying areas where savings can be found, often through Quality Improvement Teams' efforts.

Gov. Locke's proposed budget goes to the Legislature Jan. 11. Members in both the House and Senate will consider his proposals, make their own proposals, disagree, then reach compromise. They will then send the final version to the Governor. He will exercise his prerogative in signing all or part of the budget.

Why do we care so much about what is in the budget? Because we have a mission to serve the people of the state of Washington and we can only do that if we are supported through a budget that provides adequate, realistic funding.

Lyle Quasim



Words about our work

Employees, clients, and the public share thoughts on the work we do

Send your thoughts and/or letters from clients to Secretary Lyle Quasim, attention: Letters to The News Connection, P.O. Box (Mailstop) 45010, Olympia WA 98504; via e-mail Quasil@dshs.wa.gov

From a parent

Dear Sir,
It is with great pleasure I write this letter of appreciation for Con Wiebe.
Mr. Wiebe and I have been working together for the past year to collect current and past due child support for my case. Because of his efforts, my son and I received child support funds in accordance with a Superior Court order for the first time last October. This has continued each month since. For the first time in five years I was able to provide all of the essentials needed to raise my special-needs son.
I notified Con of a large settlement my son's father was about to receive a few months ago and he went into overdrive to get a lien placed on the funds within 36 hours in the state of California.

Because of Mr. Wiebe's contacts with the CSE in California and his team of local professionals, he was successful in drafting the documents and getting them served to the proper authorities within an hour after the funds were wired to attorneys. His extraordinary effort and timing paid off. The lien and subsequent negotiations resulted in his (the father's) agreement to pay \$40,000 of the back child support. The balance of the back support will be paid off within five years through increased monthly payments with the current support.
It is difficult to explain how much Mr. Wiebe's efforts have impacted our family. I had to leave a corporate job to care for my son because of the months of testing and resulting therapy required to help him become a well-adjusted child who contributes to our society. As a result of the intervention and therapy, he is responding

beautifully to a school setting and socializing well enough that he is grooming friendships instead of being kicked out of school, as he previously was. The debt incurred over the last three years of testing and therapy is enormous and can now be repaid because of this settlement.
My heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Con Wiebe for all his remarkable work and his dauntless focus to accomplish this blessing for us. I also thank you for having the foresight to employ such a capable and effective enforcement officer as Con has proved himself to be in serving all of us.

Respectfully
Name withheld

Editor's note: Con Wiebe is a support enforcement officer with the Division of Child Support Seattle office.

A BEARY SAD DAY AT MAA, A BEARY GLAD DAY FOR CHILDREN

It was a beary sad day at the Nursing Home Unit of Medical Assistance Administration in Olympia recently when 128 lovable bears left for their new temporary home with the Thurston County Sheriff's department. Employees from throughout MAA contributed the abundance of bears during the holiday season. The sheriff's department gives the bears to children victimized by domestic violence, sexual abuse, or other traumas, providing them with comfort in very stressful times. Thurston County Reserve Deputy C.D. Childs accepted the bears from collection organizers Laura Bullard (left) and Mary Fry.



DSHS 1999 Request Legislation

Editor's note: More Request Legislation will be shared in the February issue of The News Connection.
Z-0029.2 - WorkFirst Program Participation Exemption
Currently, state law allows parents with children under the age of one year to be exempted from WorkFirst participation, up to a total of 12 months. As of June 30, 1999, only those parents with children under the age of three months will be eligible for a temporary exemption.
This proposal would amend RCW 74.08A.270 to strike the temporary exemption allowance for parents with children under the age of three months after June 30, 1999 and to maintain the current temporary exemption allowance for parents with children under the age of one year.
The fiscal impact is \$13,202,000

Z-0072.3 - Sentencing Options for Juvenile Offenders Who Have Not Committed a Violent Offense
Currently a juvenile offender who is a successful graduate of the basic training camp spends the remainder of his or her disposition on parole. If an offender is not compliant with parole conditions, which include the requirements of the intensive aftercare program, the parole staff may request a revocation of up to thirty days. At times, this is not a significant deterrent for problematic behavior.
This proposal would allow the secretary to order additional parole conditions for juveniles who complete the basic training camp or return the juvenile to a JRA facility for the remainder of the juvenile's sentence range.
The fiscal impact is \$85,400

Z-0216.1 - Non-Felony Forensic Evaluations
All three state hospitals (Western, Eastern, and The Child Study and Treatment Center) conduct forensic evaluations on an outpatient basis. As the number of evaluations has increased, conducting outpatient evaluations has become a critical part of the strategy to decrease the serious in-patient overcrowding problem. Current law (RCW 10.77.060) requires two "experts or professional persons" to evaluate a person regarding sanity or competency to stand trial. Many outpatient evaluations can be completed by a single evaluator without jeopardizing the quality of the evaluation. The department's proposal would amend the law to permit forensic evaluations on persons charged with non-felonies to be conducted by a single expert or professional person.
There is no fiscal impact

Sharing our successes and commitment to reaching beyond the expected to the excellent

Quality IN DSHS

Aging & Adult Services Administration

Quality teams spread the word about effective government

MISSION STATEMENT — To promote, plan, develop, and manage a comprehensive long-term care system that assists functionally-disabled adults, older persons, and their families to maximize service options, independence, and quality of life.

QUALITY — WORKING TOGETHER FOR RESULTS

Aging and Adult Services Administration (AASA) is proud to be part of the larger DSHS Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) effort. The public will better understand the nature and value of our services when we listen carefully to customers and produce measurable results.

This past year, AASA quality efforts have involved not only many of our own staff, but also customers, providers, and other DSHS administrations. We learned a lot from each other — sharing tools, ideas, and methods for continuous improvement. Our experience confirms that quality improvement results from teamwork and collaboration, both within DSHS and with the community we serve.

- Service authorizations take place more quickly. Complete, accurate information has saved approximately 10 minutes on each case, totaling 700 hours saved per month.
- Staff time spent correcting errors has been significantly reduced.
- Communication between AASA staff and contractors has become clearer and more effective.



Team Members: (From left) Marianne Backous, Lois Simko, Debbie Knaut, Barbara Follett, Ruben Castenada, Marjie Roberts, Mary Galvez. (Not pictured: Marylyn White, Dennis Humfleet, Carole Wetherington, Jill Ramsey, Brenda Langner, Caroline Tester, Rosemary Kot, Sharon Wightman, David Yarbrough, Hui Cha Le, Kate Kukas, Larry Heiner, Terry Marker, Penny Black)

AASA 1999 Quality Improvement Plan

AASA has established a seven-point plan to expand CQI efforts in 1999. We would like to share the highlights of this plan with you:

- ORGANIZE** Continue to establish a CQI “infrastructure,” including trained AASA coaches throughout the state.
- LISTEN** Obtain customer input on our key business operations.
- LEARN** Develop and implement an effective, exciting CQI training plan.
- PRODUCE** Complete a wide range of CQI projects throughout the year
- COMMUNICATE** ... Implement the DSHS Communication Initiative by sharing and publicizing DSHS ideas and accomplishments inside and outside the department.
- CELEBRATE** Recognize outstanding CQI teamwork.
- INCLUDE** Fully involve staff and customers in the annual strategic planning process.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In the spirit of continuous improvement, AASA staff worked on numerous CQI projects over the past year. To date, AASA has officially reported on seven projects involving approximately 100 department staff and community stakeholders. We would like to tell you about some of them. If you have questions or comments about these projects, please contact Deanna Rankos at (360) 493-2613, or Katie Cameron at (360) 407-0343.

Improving Case Management

Region 6 Home and Community Services (HCS) has completed a major effort to improve long-term care case management by reducing errors in the Comprehensive Assessment, service plan, and client files.

Using an objective monitoring tool, 41 problems areas were identified and tracked over a two-year period. Mandatory training was provided to social workers and community nurses to address identified problem areas. Training topics included: Comprehensive Assessments, service plans, use of computer, proper documentation, program eligibility, and technical assistance to address specific needs of individual staff and offices.

- Results:**
- Accuracy of client participation amounts in cost of care has increased 100 percent.
 - Accuracy of Comprehensive Assessments and record keeping has increased 71 percent.

Opening Doors to Service

Region 3 HCS has completed a project to improve client access to long-term care services. Region 3 Administrator Rose Bowman said, “The whole way we operate has changed.”

The project focused on improving access to financial services. Financial hours were more limited than social services, due to workweek classifications. With the full support of all the affected financial staff, the CQI team requested the Personnel Board to change the Region 3 financial staff classification from “standard” to “non-standard,” permitting more flexible work hours. DOP approved the change, which has measurably improved access and coordination of long-term care services.

- Results:**
- Access to financial services has increased 25 percent (at least two additional hours per day).
 - Teamwork has increased between financial and social service staff, due to similar flexibility in work hours.
 - Clients can access comprehensive and coordinated services (financial and social) at times most convenient to them.
- Team Members:* Rose Bowman, Norma Cook, Pam Lambeth, and Janet Scanga.

Protecting Nursing Home Residents

In October 1997, it seemed to the staff of Nursing Home Quality Assurance District 4A of Residential Care Services that a large number of nursing home residents had hospital-acquired pressure sores. The goal of the CQI project was to protect hospitalized nursing home residents from unnecessary skin breakdown and to hold hospitals accountable for identified deficit care.

Data was collected to determine the following:

- Number of pressure sores acquired in the hospital.
- Severity of hospital-acquired pressure sores as compared with those developed in the nursing home.
- Locations of the ulcers acquired in hospital as compared with those developed in the nursing home.

In situations where the team believed that pressure sores were avoidable, the team referred these cases through the Health Care Financing Administration Region X office to the Professional Review Office (PRO), which investigated for failed practice.

Simplifying the rules

Regulatory Improvement in Aging & Adult Services

AASA has taken action on many fronts to improve our regulations. In an effort to make rules more accessible, we developed an Intranet site where the Home and Community Services (HCS) field manual, management bulletins, and information memoranda can be viewed. This information now can be accessed directly by HCS regional staff as well as the state's 13 Area Agencies on Aging.

In addition, a Rules Improvement Team has representatives from all AASA divisions. The team, meeting twice each month, reviews all proposed rules to ensure consistency and clarity in rulemaking.

Below are several efforts that address stakeholder involvement:

To both comply with regulatory improvement guidelines and to solicit public input on the need for amendment or repeal, Home and Community Services Division presented all of the home and community service-related Washington Administrative Code at a public stakeholders meeting last April. HCS summarized and distributed the comments from that meeting and will continue to involve all interested parties in the amendment/repeal process.

In response to legislation, Management Services Division convened a nursing facility payment system WAC committee. Comprised of members of nursing facility provider associations and AASA, the committee met several times to discuss AASA's proposed rules for the nursing facility payment system. This process allowed for detailed input about the rules while they were being developed.

Residential Care Services Division (RCS) convenes Residential Quality Forums quarterly for each program it licenses or contracts.

These forums expedite discussion about the provision of quality care to residents of Nursing Homes, Adult Family Homes, and Boarding Homes. The forums bring together providers, advocates, consumers, and department staff to discuss new issues and current developments related to residential care regulations and their implementation. To further encourage stakeholder participation in the regulatory improvement process, RCS has:

- Mailed approximately 400 surveys to providers and interested parties to find out which nursing home licensing regulations are problematic or unclear.
- Held five meetings around the state to hear public concerns regarding nursing home licensing regulation. About 150 residents and family members attended these meetings.
- Conducted focus groups on dementia care and physical environment in response to stakeholder recommendations.

Making sense of the rules

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SECRETARY LYLE QUASIM, ALL ADMINISTRATIONS ARE EXAMINING EXISTING RULES AND DETERMINING WHICH CAN BE ELIMINATED AND SIMPLIFYING THOSE WE NEED. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HEARINGS FOR PROPOSED RULE CHANGES CHECK OUT THE RULES AND POLICIES ASSISTANCE UNIT WEB PAGES AT [HTTP://WWW.WA.GOV/DSHS](http://www.wa.gov/dshs).

More of quality efforts

Results:

- The team made 10 referrals, involving six different hospital sites, to the Professional Review Office. The PRO has investigated five cases by early November 1998, and has validated District 4A's concerns.



- The PRO established specific plans of correction for the three involved hospitals. PRO will monitor hospitals to ensure continued compliance.
- Based on the findings of this project, a similar COI project has been developed to include implementation statewide in all Nursing Home Quality Assurance districts.

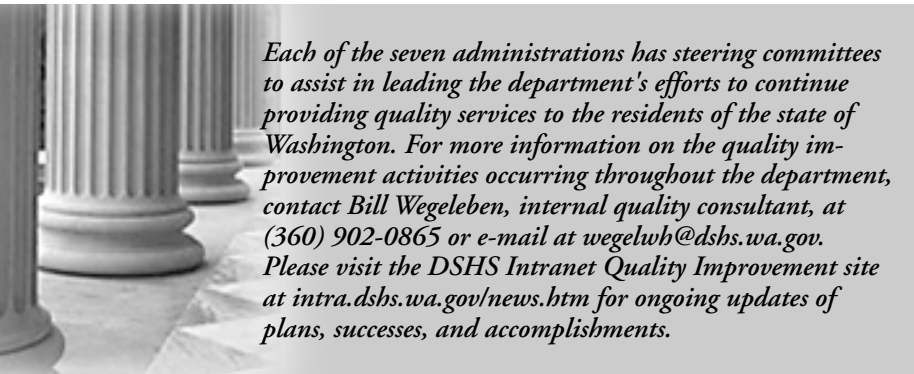
Team Members: (back row from left) Frances Pedersen, Shirley Kurz, Susan Ghoddousi. (Front row): Jill Stevens, Mary Jo Lar. (Not pictured: Susan Abrisz, Peggy Mates)

Bringing Health Care to Clients and Caregivers

Residents of Adult Family Homes (AFH) are exceptionally vulnerable to contracting influenza and pneumonia. These elderly and disabled clients frequently suffer major complications, including death. Many residents are homebound and lack access to immunization sites. The Spokane Health District, in partnership with AFH licensors, brought immunizations to the Adult Family Homes.

Results:

- 52 clients and caregivers have been successfully immunized in just two months.



Each of the seven administrations has steering committees to assist in leading the department's efforts to continue providing quality services to the residents of the state of Washington. For more information on the quality improvement activities occurring throughout the department, contact Bill Wegeleben, internal quality consultant, at (360) 902-0865 or e-mail at wegeleb@dsht.wa.gov. Please visit the DSHS Intranet Quality Improvement site at intra.dshs.wa.gov/news.htm for ongoing updates of plans, successes, and accomplishments.

- Partnerships have been strengthened among various agencies: DSHS, the Spokane Health District, Adult Family Home providers, and many other community agencies.
- Elderly and disabled clients have been protected from serious, life-threatening illnesses.
- There are plans to increase participation next year.

Team Members: Barry Hoard, Carla Burke, Jan Palmer Smith, Cindy Jobb, Gwen Dutt, and Mary Lou Rief.

Streamlining Business Transactions

The AASA Office of Rates Management (ORM) administers long-term care payment systems for functionally disabled adults and older persons. ORM has now implemented the concepts reported in a previous *The NewsConnection* issue. Staff have used continuous quality improvement principles to:

- Speed up the review of nursing home cost reports.
- Recover unallowable facility costs.
- Expedite completion of appeals, audit issues, and settlements.

Results:

- Close-out of nursing home cost reports has been reduced from five years to two years – a service to providers.
- Unallowable nursing home costs have been identified earlier, with more timely recovery.
- Ten Rates Management FTEs have been freed up and reassigned to meet new legislative mandates.



Team Members: (Back row from left): Nancy Holderman, E. Scott Howe, Phil Hansen, Jill Brady, Linda Herrera, Donna Smith, Marcelo Estrella, Bonnie Hawkins, Annette Curry, Toni Zorn, Dick Rosage, Ben Schatz, Shirley Smyth, Arnold Olson, John Ihli, and Ken Callaghan. (Kneeling row): Allan Miller, Robert Dumar, Anh Nguyen, Ron Kerber, Lyle Baker, and Mernilo Cruz. (Front) Haldor Finnerud. (Not pictured: Lois Brighten, Robert Gray, Pat Hague, Fred Harrison, Patricia Hayes, Bobbie Howard, Tom Kearns, Joe Perrino, Bert Veinot, Ben Wang, Ron Woods.)

Governor Locke proposes spending plan for 99-01

Budget drafters call them “gives” and “takes.” Those are the items you get in your proposed budget and the items you have taken away by decision makers. For DSHS, Gov. Gary Locke’s proposed 1999-2001 Biennial Budget has both.

The governor is recommending that, from all funding sources, the proposed DSHS budget grow by 8.1 percent next biennium, going from \$11.1 billion to \$12 billion. Only 4.3 percent of that recommended growth will come from state general funds, according to Stan Marshburn, DSHS budget director. State general fund growth will be limited next biennium as state revenues are constrained by a slowing of the economy and competition with budget priorities in other areas.

These bottom-line totals reflect three types of actions taking place simultaneously: 1) additional resources are provided to cover the cost of maintaining current programs as cost of service delivery goes up, 2) budget cuts are implemented to reflect program efficiencies, changing the source of program funding, changing program priorities, and caseload declines, and 3) funding is provided for a few new initiatives. The Governor had to build the 1999-2001 budget with external con-

straints of declining state revenues from a slowing economy and expenditure limits imposed by Initiative 601. To do this he used three building blocks to balance the budget: 1) savings from the 24 percent drop in WorkFirst caseloads (\$193 million savings), 2) the recent national tobacco settlement that will bring \$323 million to the state during the next biennium (part of a total \$4 billion over the next 25 years), and 3) \$161 million in budget cuts across all state agencies.

To prepare for the budget process the Governor requested that each of his cabinet agencies identify potential budget cuts amounting to seven percent of their total budget.

Secretary Lyle Quasim directed DSHS administrations to identify budget reductions in three ranges: three, five, and seven percent. The Governor was given the three bands, plus the department’s list of priorities for consideration to use as he developed his proposed state government two-year operating budget. Because of the welfare savings and the Tobacco Lawsuit Settlement, the Governor’s budget recommends budget cuts of less than 2 percent for the department.

In addition to the Governor’s recommendation to spend more on

Where the dollars do and don't come from ...

Revenue challenges

- A number of Washington’s key trading partners, including Japan, Asia, and Latin America are in a recession. Washington industries, such as aerospace and agriculture, are heavily dependent on international trade and will experience a drop in demand for their products.
- Washington’s population growth is expected to slow, which in turn will slow economic growth related to housing construction and real estate sales.

Revenue sources

- More than 80 percent of the state general fund revenues come from the state’s sales tax, the Business & Occupation tax and the state property tax.
- WorkFirst, Washington’s welfare reform program, will save the state \$193 million through reduced welfare caseloads as more people are moved to employment.
- The recent national tobacco settlement will bring \$323 million to the state during the next biennium, with a total of \$4 billion coming in over the next 25 years.

Spending limitations

- Initiative 601, passed by voters in 1993, sets a state expenditure limit. The limit is determined by taking the current actual state fund expenditures and increasing that amount by the 601 “growth factor.” The growth factor is the three-year rolling average for inflation plus population growth.

Any revenue taken in over that amount must go to an emergency reserve fund. A two-thirds vote of the legislature is required to take money from that account. For the first time since passage of 601 state revenues will not exceed the expenditure limit next year.

- Referendum 49, passed by voters in November, reduces the state motor vehicle excise tax by \$30 per vehicle, reducing state funds by an estimated \$470 million in the next biennium.

education, salmon recovery, and state employee and teacher salary increases, the Governor’s budget also provides selective enhancements to expanding health care to children, additional funding in Developmental Disabilities, Long-term Care, Juvenile Rehabilitation and Alcohol and Substance Abuse programs.

The Governor’s proposed 1999-2001 budget will be presented to the State Legislature Jan. 11. Senate and House of Representatives members will consider his proposals, offer many of their own, debate the issues, and reach compromises. By April 26 they are scheduled to have completed a budget document that is sent to the Governor for his signature.

Highlights of proposed DSHS spending for 1999-2001

Within DSHS, budget highlights include:

Aging and Adult Services Administration

- Long Term Care Provider Training – implementing improved provider training (\$870,000).
- Individual Provider Brokerage – most long-term care clients who receive in-home services use Individual Providers (IP) as caregivers. The proposed IP Brokerage provides a mechanism to monitor the performance of IPs and assist clients in finding, hiring, and other dealings with IP caregivers (\$3.7 million).
- Improved AAA Case Management Ratio – reducing the ratio of AAA case managers for home-care clients from 1-to-100 to 1-to-85. A smaller ratio will enable case managers to see clients more frequently, ensuring appropriate care (\$3.2 million).
- Client Acuity Management – funding new residential case management staff to help clients in nursing homes identify appropriate alternative and less expensive community-based settings (\$1 million).
- Use Tracking and Management – improving data systems, allowing for analysis of client use and patterns (\$490,000).

Economic Services Administration

- Homeless Children’s Plan – Funding is earmarked for extraordinary housing assistance for TANF clients or TANF eligible families to obtain or keep stable housing or home situations (\$10 million). The Governor’s budget also recommends transferring a portion of the consolidated emergency assistance program funds from DSHS to the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development to be used to prevent families from becoming homeless (\$2.5 million).

Health and Rehabilitative Services Administration

Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse

- Pierce County Pilot Project – providing funding for a project in Pierce County that will demonstrate the effectiveness and cost savings of investing in a community-based continuum of services aimed at prevention, intervention, and treatment of substance abuse. The Office of Research and Data Analysis will conduct research to monitor the project for five years (\$4 million).

Division of Developmental Disabilities

- Community Protection – placing 48 persons with developmental disabilities, who have a history of physical or sexual abuse behaviors, into state-run secure residential settings (\$2.3 million).
- High School Transition – providing employment and day training programs for over 950 young people with developmental disabilities who will graduate from public school during 1999-01 (\$2.6 million).
- Adult Family Home (AFH) Rates – increasing rates for AFHs serving persons with developmental disabilities to a level much closer to the going market rate (\$2.9 million).
- Provider staff training – providing training for in-home and residential providers of Medicaid Personal Care services for persons with developmental disabilities (\$400,000).
- Mental Health Division Outplacements – providing funding to cover the cost of residential and day programs services for 48 long-term care residents of state mental hospitals whose hospital treatment is complete, but cannot be accommodated in existing community vacancies (\$3.5 million).

Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration

- Community Juvenile Accountability – providing grants to local communities to implement intervention programs that have been proven by behavioral science research to be effective in reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders (\$2.5 million).
- Reinstate Juvenile Parole – the 1997-99 Biennium Budget eliminated funding for all parole services except those 25 percent of offenders most likely to re-offend. This item restores “regular” parole services for the other 75 percent of juvenile offenders currently released from state custody without supervision or transition services. This restoration of parole will increase public safety and security, promote positive changes in behavior, and reduce the likelihood of youth re-offending (\$2.4 million).

Medical Assistance Administration

- Children’s Health Insurance – implements a Children’s Health Insurance program that will cover children in families with income between 200-250 percent of the federal poverty level (\$11.6 million in mostly federal funds).

DiversityCalendar

Each month throughout the year *The News Connection* features the next two months' special dates, provided by the Division of Access and Equal Opportunity, Diversity Initiative. Help celebrate the richness of our world and the people of America. If you have a special date you would like included in the next calendar or want more information on the Diversity Initiative, e-mail RSWAIN@dshs.wa.gov.

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 4 Isaac Newton's Birthday
- 5 George Washington Carver's Birthday
- 13 Togo Liberation Day
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
- 17 Benjamin Franklin's Birthday
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 20 Brazil: San Sebastian's Day
- 25 New Zealand: Auckland Day
- 28 Jose Marti's Birthday
- 30 Jackie Robinson's Birthday
- 31 13th Amendment abolishes slavery

FEBRUARY

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

- 11 Nelson Mandela Day
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 St. Valentine's Day
- 15 President's Day
- 17 Ash Wednesday
- 18 Chief Leschi Day
- 19 Day of Remembrance: Japanese American Internment
- 22 Washington's Birthday
- 27 Dominican Republic Independence Day

Time to recognize your colleagues' outstanding work

It's that time again when all DSHS employees can participate in showing their appreciation of workers who are "Making a Difference" by nominating them for an Outstanding Employee Award. During 1998, DSHS employees have made major contributions toward achieving the department's mission. Several DSHS employees have excelled in their areas of work and expertise. Their contributions have made a difference in the lives of individuals and families in need, and have helped improve the way we work together.

Employees will be considered for awards in three categories: Outstanding Employee, Outstanding Team, and Vision Awards.

The Team Award focuses on groups of employees who accomplish extraordinary results. The Vision Award, presented at the regional and state levels, recognizes individual outstanding contributions towards diverse communities and work environments.

Staff recognized for state level awards are honored at the regional celebrations.

Nomination forms (available from office managers) and any supporting documentation must be submitted to local selection committees by Jan. 29.

For assistance in preparing a nomination, contact your local selection committee or the Director's Office, Employee Services Division (360) 902-8381. (Please note new phone number: The earlier nomination forms have an incorrect phone number for assistance.)

Rich Davis appointed

Rich Davis has been appointed as the acting Disability Initiative program manager and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinator, filling in behind Dave Brown while he is away on a special project at the Department of Personnel.

Davis has been involved in national and local advocacy and advisory groups for many years. He has established and implemented programs for people with disabilities.

Currently Davis is a member of the Department of General Administration's State Facilities Accessibility Advisory Committee, which looks at the accessibility of state-owned and leased facilities. He is also a member of the Labor and Industries Assessment Task Force at the Dept. of Labor and Industries, which is looking at how L&I is complying with the ADA.

Davis most recently served as an Industrial Insurance underwriter with L&I.

Shared leave

Ren Gonzalez, a social worker in the Forks branch office of the Port Angeles Community Services Office, is in need of shared leave. He is scheduled for follow-up surgery to correct healing complications of shoulder surgery in June. He is expected to be off work for three months. For more information, contact Heather McNally at (360) 417-1486.

Sandra Green, human resources assistant 2 in Region 4 Home and Community Services, was in an auto accident and is in need of shared leave. For more information, contact Suellen Sedies at (206) 341-7618.

Merlen Rowen, supply control technician at Mission Creek Youth Camp, Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and will be undergoing a series of treatments. He is in need of shared leave. For more information, contact Linda Nelson at (360) 478-4977.



SERVICE MILESTONES

Region 1

- 5 Bichler, Teri
- 5 Caraway, Barbara
- 5 Eastham, Linda
- 5 Hulin, John
- 5 Leger, Laura
- 10 Cooper, Huong
- 10 Hubensack, Karl
- 10 Kimm, Grace
- 10 Potter, Karen Rae
- 10 Wagner, Deanna
- 10 Wissink, Teresa
- 15 Achenbach, James
- 15 Jones, Maurice
- 15 Mee, Loretta
- 15 Reiman, Dean
- 15 Russell
- 15 Traylor, John
- 20 Rendon, David

Region 2

- 5 Baisa, Rachel
- 5 Burns, Peter
- 5 Nelson, John
- 10 Low, Brent
- 10 Reboca, Julia
- 10 Rothenberger, Peggy
- 15 Brandt, Faye
- 15 Hill, Jyll
- 15 Huebner, John
- 15 Hyvonen, V. Shiela
- 15 Whitney, Jill
- 20 Padilla, Zosima
- 30 Slimjohn, Rosalie

Region 3

- 5 Britton, Tana
- 5 Christensen, Lisa
- 10 Adkins, Carmelita
- 15 Fraley, Joan
- 15 Hamblin, Jeff
- 15 Hoang, Vu Phong
- 15 Jenkins, Jerry
- 15 Rushfeldt, Elizabeth
- 25 Tilkin, Richard
- 30 Berg, Dwayne Elmer
- 30 Inge, Robert
- 35 Guthrie, Dorothy

Region 4

- 5 Cota, Darrell
- 5 Torres, Miriam
- 10 Hagen, Gayle
- 10 Kelly, Barbara
- 10 Leatham, Michele
- 10 Thomas, Joyce
- 10 Timmons, Cheryl
- 15 Borgaard, Janet
- 15 Hubbard, Silvia

- 15 Kercheval, Sandy
- 15 Magee, James
- 15 Monahan, Mary
- 15 Riggins, Eric
- 15 Shutes, Deloise
- 15 Soule, Lloyd
- 20 Bell, Joseph
- 20 Bushey, Betty
- 20 Lindgren, Brian
- 25 Lott, Georgetta
- 30 Watkins, Minnie

Region 5

- 5 Vigil, Ernie
- 10 Brayton, Evett Lynn
- 10 Ryan, Vicki
- 10 Wilson, Lula
- 15 Clark, Wesley
- 15 Grzelka, Patience
- 15 Harmonson, Marie
- 15 Kosier, Euda
- 15 Langdon, Lorna
- 15 Robinson, Ann
- 15 Sirag, Leslie
- 20 Ahern, Michael
- 20 Smith, Sandra
- 25 Funk, Gail
- 30 Brown, Deborah

Region 6

- 5 Borchers, Marguerite
- 5 Deiders, Susan
- 10 Bailey, Helen
- 10 Cummings, David
- 10 Ferguson, Patricia
- 10 Roice, Dennis
- 15 Austin, Lola
- 15 Barndt, Marjorie
- 15 Dujon, Bernadette
- 15 Holmes, Kathleen
- 15 Hurtado-Webb, Laura
- 15 Jacobs, Nadele
- 15 Kimm, Roger
- 15 Mark, Rona Ley
- 20 Wilson, Charles Dee
- 25 Stephens, Willa

DSHS-Headquarters

- 5 Bardin, Marion
- 5 Belz, Edith
- 5 Brandford, Carol
- 5 Colby, Cynthia
- 5 Corless-Jenkins, T.
- 5 Daggett, Kathleen
- 5 Hardinge, April
- 5 Hinkley, Kim
- 5 Huynh, Do Van

- 5 Miller, Jeri Lynn
- 5 Opsal, Andre
- 5 Stevenson, Jana
- 5 Tombleson, Beatrice
- 5 Tran, Tuy Tieu
- 5 Van Arnam, Carol
- 5 Wilkins, Cyndi
- 10 Burke, Janice
- 10 Fox, Cheryl
- 10 Gilbert, Glinn
- 10 Grant, Scott
- 10 Gumaer, Kathleen
- 10 Krautstrunk, M. J.
- 10 Meagher, Michael
- 10 Nyenhuis, Brian
- 10 O'Hare, Shelly
- 10 Rogers, Judith
- 10 Ronco, Linda
- 10 Uwadiale, Solomon
- 10 Walsh, Robert
- 15 Anderson, Andriena
- 15 Anderson, Catherine
- 15 Anderson, Kim
- 15 Arnzen, Stephen
- 15 Daniels, John
- 15 Enlow, Jeanne
- 15 Finn, Shirley
- 15 Friedman, James
- 15 Gardner, Jon
- 15 Miller, Cheryl
- 15 Ngo, Le Thanh
- 15 Nobles, Flora
- 15 Qualls, Barbara
- 15 Ramirez, Cheryl
- 15 Rowan, Drucilla
- 15 Sandstrom, Rhea
- 15 Stoneman, Patricia
- 15 Tan-Bui, Chen
- 15 Thompson, Mary
- 15 White, Amy
- 15 Willis, Jeffrey
- 15 Young, John
- 20 Lee, Glenda
- 20 Wallace, Stephanie
- 20 Williams, Carol
- 20 Williams, Cindy
- 25 Bailey, Leilani
- 25 Dyrseth, Nora
- 25 Johnson, Charles
- 25 Moody, John
- 25 Moore, Terry
- 25 Robinson, Carolyn
- 30 Redal, Mark
- 30 Stone, Barbara

Consolidated Support Services

- 15 Lashley, Rod
- 25 Cleveland, James

Child Study & Treatment Center

- 5 Johnson Jr., Raymond

Eastern State Hospital

- 5 Cressey, Verne
- 10 Ilagan, Rebecca
- 10 Kearney, James
- 15 Getz, Gerald
- 15 Lord-Flynn, Daniel
- 15 Raulston, George
- 15 Shroll, Vicki
- 15 Wolf, Annabel

Echo Glen Children's Center

- 5 Francis, Frederick
- 5 Schlichte, Hazel
- 5 Vanderwey, Tanya
- 15 Dunbar, Patricia

Fircrest School

- 5 Harding, Debra
- 5 McConnachie, Gene
- 5 Newkirk, Loren
- 10 Burfekt, Claude
- 15 Zaky, Robert

Frances Haddon Morgan Center

- 10 Erickson, Randall
- 15 Grzybinski, Nancy
- 15 Hoover, Shannon
- 20 Heilinger, Gerald

Green Hill School

- 5 Barrett, Cheryl

Lakeland Village

- 5 Edinger, Rhonda
- 5 Swindell, Shirley
- 10 Dodd, Walter
- 15 Allen, Lauralee
- 15 Berger, Dorothy
- 15 Krapko, Michael
- 20 Doyle, Patricia
- 20 Kane, Alisi
- 20 White, Marjorie
- 20 Williams, Cauleen
- 25 Morley, Donna

Maple Lane School

- 5 Blackwell, Justin
- 5 Harmon, Dennis
- 5 Vu, Rosalina

Naselle Youth Camp

- 5 Gauntz, Mary
- 10 Ennis, Michael

Rainier School

- 5 Carter, Rebecca
- 5 Frazee, Patricia
- 10 Barber, Cathy
- 10 Blanton, Charlene
- 10 Gwaltney, Theresa
- 10 Hille, Sharon
- 10 Kelly, Robert
- 10 Musgrove, Katherine
- 15 Clement, Curtis
- 15 Reed, Leah
- 20 Mulligan, Derald
- 20 Strom, Patricia
- 20 Williams, Tracy
- 25 Britton, Marilyn
- 25 Hamilton, Sally

Western State Hospital

- 5 Harvey, Harris
- 5 Stockman, Tammy
- 5 Viscaya, Victoria
- 10 Akers, Patsy
- 10 Bass-Gamlin, Alisa
- 10 Delapp, Marjorie
- 10 Dunn, Stephen Lee
- 10 Fuoco, Antonio
- 10 Grant, Linda
- 10 Homer, Karl
- 10 Maxwell, Marshall
- 10 Plate, Sandra
- 10 Samuelson, Victor
- 10 Tighe, William
- 10 Westbrook, James
- 10 Zarebski, Leokadia
- 15 Broumley, Daniel
- 15 Burgess, Ivan E. Jr.
- 15 Caron, Richard
- 15 Dykes, Katherine
- 15 Garoutte, Judith
- 15 Giovanetti, Edward
- 15 Hobson, Marie
- 15 Hoover, Bonnie
- 15 Jesic, Lucy
- 15 Kirkpatrick, Barbara
- 15 Lizee, Kathleen
- 15 Robinson, James
- 15 Robinson, Lisa
- 15 Stephenson, Jennie
- 15 Tietge, Kenneth
- 15 Williams, Kathy
- 20 Nowlin, John
- 20 Pieterman, Dan
- 20 Sass, Ubelinda

Yakima Valley School

- 5 Rawson, Linda
- 10 Pearson, Erik
- 15 Carmichael, Lori

RETIREMENTS

Armstrong, Rita T.
22 Yrs. Division of Management & Operations Support

Bailey, Leilani S.
25 Yrs. Division of Child Support-Wenatchee

Caldwell, Jeanette L.
20 Yrs. Division of Child Support-Spokane

Carl, Donna M.
14 Yrs. Lakeland Village

Chaney, Janett
31 Yrs. Fircrest School

Drewry, Betty J.
18 Yrs. Office of Financial Recovery

Ferguson, Linda Ann
2 Yrs. Division of Children & Family Services - Spokane Central Office

Galt, Kristy Ann
30 Yrs. Division of Children & Family Services - Pierce Central

Hansen, Marlyce A.
31 Yrs. Economic Services Administration Regional Administration Office

Hanson, Joan H.
30 Yrs. Office of Information Systems Services Division

Hendrickson, Darlene
29 Yrs. Division of Children & Family Services - Headquarters Office

Hilderbrant, Charles
18 Yrs. Chehalis Community Services Office

Kingery, Elsie B.
27 Yrs. Aging & Adult Field Services

Leigh, Frances
27 Yrs. Division of Children & Family Services - King North Office

Milligan, Donald C.
30 Yrs. Division of Children & Family Services - Headquarters Office

Munro, Sharon L.
24 Yrs. Division of Child Support-Spokane

Rodgers, Linda M.
25 Yrs. Division of Disability Determination

Shannon, Joe S.
28 Yrs. Information Systems Services Division

Spencer, Betty L.
30 Yrs. Aging & Adult Services Administration

Zapara, Florence Mae
16 Yrs. Division of Children & Family Services Regional Administration Office

These employees retired in October 1998

These employees celebrated service anniversaries in December 1998